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Title: Need to expedite the process to acquire 164.68 acres of defence land for expansion of Tiruchirapalli Airport in Tamil Nadu.

SHRI P. KUMAR (TIRUCHIRAPPALLI): My Parliamentary Constituency, Tiruchirapalli is the fourth biggest city in Tamil Nadu with 10,27,000 population. People from Thanjavur, Pudukottai, Karur, Perambalur, Ariyalur, Nagapattinam and Thiruvarur Districts are depending on Trichirapalli Airport for domestic and International travel. Tiruchirapalli Airport is one of the oldest Customs Airports from 1936. More than 11 lakh people made use of this international Airport in the year 2011 alone.

The Government of India upgraded Tiruchirapalli Airport into International Standard for the operation of regular International Flights vide the recent notification. 510 acres of land is required for expansion of Trichy Airport.

The District administration approached the Secretary to Government, Public(Military) Department to acquire 164.68 acres of defence land. He had also recommended the same to the Defence Estate Officer, Chennai for granting concurrence for the acquisition of Military lands vide D.O. Lr. No. 40358/Military/2011-1 dated 12.12.2011. The matter is still pending with the Defence Department. I request the Hon'ble Minister of Defence to expedite the matter at the earliest.